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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/650,496	08/29/2000	Dale E Fiene		8592

7590                    03/27/2002

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Algonquin, IL 60102

EXAMINER

LEE, WILSON

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2821	

DATE MAILED: 03/27/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No. <b>09/650,496</b>	Applicant(s) <b>Flene</b>	Examiner <b>Wilson Lee</b> Art Unit <b>2821</b>
		

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --*

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 29, 2000

2a)  This action is FINAL.                    2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4)  Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) 1-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8)  Claims 1-27 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a)  approved b)  disapproved.
- 12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of:
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

### Attachment(s)

- 15)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 18)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 19)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restriction***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-6, 14-19, drawn to an electrical connector, classified in class 439, subclass 226.
  - II. Claims 7-13, 20-26, drawn to a lamp enclosure means, classified in class 362, subclass 133.
  - III. Claim 27, drawn to a transformer supply circuit for a lamp, classified in class 315, subclass 276.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions, invention I comprises a pair of input terminals being capable of piercing the output conductors of the luminaire. It depicts an internal structure of the conductor for rendering a particular electrical contact between the lamp and the source. Invention II comprises an enclosure for enclosing the lamps, wiring and the power source. It defines the invention as a connection structure for generally supporting or mounting the lamps.

Inventions II and III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different

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functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions, invention II comprises an enclosure for enclosing the lamps, wiring and the power source. It defines the invention as a connection structure for generally supporting or mounting the lamps. Invention III depicts the specific ballasting circuit for reducing the voltage across the cathodes after the lamp has ignited.

Inventions I and III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions, invention I comprises a pair of input terminals being capable of piercing the output conductors of the luminaire. It depicts an internal structure of the conductor for rendering a particular electrical contact between the lamp and the source. Invention III depicts the specific ballasting circuit for reducing the voltage across the cathodes after the lamp has ignited.

3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Applicants are advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention for examining even though the requirement may be traverse.

5. Applicants are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the

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application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

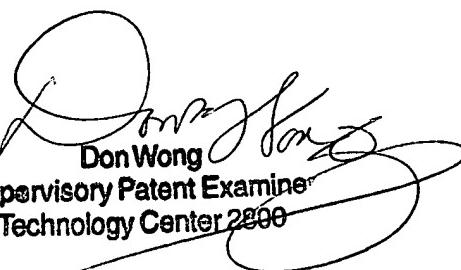
A shorten statutory period for response to this action is set to expire thirty days from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned.

6. A telephone call was made to Mr. Fiene on 3/22/02 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

*Correspondence*

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Wilson Lee whose telephone number is (703) 306-3426.
8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.
9. Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications may be submitted to Technology Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 308-7722 or (703) 308-7724.

WL  
03/22/02



Don Wong  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800